

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested prior to or concurrent with calculation of the filing fees.

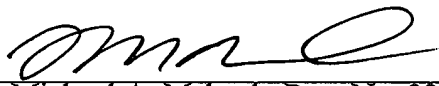
This Amendment was filed to remove the multiple dependencies and to avoid the surcharge. New claims 17-24 were added. The new claims are based upon the original multiple dependent claims that are amended hereby to single dependency.

Examination on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Michael A. Makuch, Reg. No. 32,263  
1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Telephone: (202) 659-2811  
Fax: (202) 263-4329

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